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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants : Gregory Dittmer et al.

Application No. : 10/722,808 Confirmation No. : 8187

Filed : November 26, 2003

For : METHODS AND CIRCUITS FOR PROGRAMMABLE CURRENT LIMIT PROTECTION

Group Art Unit : 2838

Palo Alto, California 94301
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Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement to provide the Office with information regarding litigation and other proceedings involving patents related to control circuits and methods for maintaining high efficiency over broad current ranges in a switching regulator circuit. U.S. Patent application 08/036,047 (the '047 application), filed March 23, 1993, now U.S. Patent Number 5,481,178 (the '178 patent), is currently the subject of

litigation. This litigation is *Linear Technology Corporation* v. *Impala, et al.*, United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, Case No. C-98-1727 VRW. In addition, European Patent 0 617 501 B1, which claims priority from the '047 application, is currently the subject of an appeal from a decision of the Opposition Division to maintain the patent. Furthermore, the Japanese Patent Office issued a notice on February 5, 2003, informing the Assignee of the '047 application that a third party filed references against Japanese Patent Application No. 6-52295 (the Japanese application), which claims priority from the '047 application. The Japanese application was granted on December 12, 2003 as Japanese Patent No. 3501491. Applicants submit this statement to identify documents that have been cited in the litigation and the opposition proceedings and filed against the Japanese application. Should the Office determine that it has a need for further information, Applicants stand ready to assist the Office in satisfying that need.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record in the above-identified application the documents listed in the accompanying Form PTO-1449.*

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* Applicants' submission of this statement is not an admission that the information herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability of any presented claim. With respect to cited documents other than patents, Applicants have identified dates or possible date codes that appear on the documents. Applicants' identification of these dates is not an admission that the documents were published by or on the dates identified. Applicants reserve the right to challenge any of the cited documents as prior art.

Defendants in the litigation have cited numerous references, which applicants list below for consideration in the present case. The documents that have been cited by the defendants in the litigation are identified by a double asterisk ("**"). The documents that have been cited in the European Opposition proceedings are identified by a triple asterisk ("***"). The documents that have been filed with the Japanese Patent Office against the Japanese application are identified by a quadruple asterisk ("****").

Some of the documents listed below also were identified in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 30, 2004. Those previously-identified documents are identified herein by a double ampersand ("&&"). Because the previously-identified documents were submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 30, 2004, those documents are not enclosed herewith.

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Pursuant to the PTO's waiver of the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i), 1276 OG 55, applicants have not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication. Copies of the aforementioned foreign patent publications and other documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449, are enclosed herewith.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent that may issue on this application. Applicants request that a copy of Form PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENTS
Docket No. LT-167

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gregory Dittmer et al.

Application No.: 10/722,808 Confirmation No.: 8187

Filed : November 26, 2003

For : METHODS AND CIRCUITS FOR PROGRAMMABLE CURRENT LIMIT PROTECTION

Group Art Unit : 2838

Mail Stop: Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement in the above-identified application. This Statement is submitted:

[ ] within three months of the application filing date;

[X] more than three months from the application filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this letter is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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		APPLICANT **Dittmer et al.**	
	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	FILING DATE **November 26, 2003**	GROUP **2838**

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